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## Claims:

## 1. A system comprising:

a participant subsystem that is authorized to anonymously participate in a plurality of sessions using secret information provided by a manager subsystem; and

5 a reception subsystem that determines whether it is acceptable for the participant subsystem to participate in a session,

wherein

the participant subsystem comprises:

10 an anonymous signing section for authorizing individual data using the secret information depending on session-related information to produce anonymous participation data with anonymous signature, and

the reception subsystem comprises:

15 an anonymous signature determining section for determining whether received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous signature authorized by the participant subsystem; and

20 a sender match determining section for determining whether anonymous signatures of arbitrary two pieces of anonymous participation data are signed by an identical participant subsystem.

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2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the anonymous signature includes data that is generated by a predetermined expression using the session-related information and the secret information, wherein the sender 5 match determining section checks the data included in the anonymous signature of received anonymous participation data.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the predetermined expression is represented by raising a session-dependent base to a power that is dependent on the 10 secret information.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the anonymous signing section authorizes the individual data based on a group signature scheme.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the 15 anonymous signing section authorizes the individual data based on an escrowed identity scheme.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the anonymous signing section comprises:

20 a generator creating section for creating a session-dependent generator depending on the session-related information:

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a group signing section for signing the individual data using the session-dependent generator and the secret information to produce anonymous participation data, wherein the anonymous participation data includes data obtained by 5 raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information; and

a linkage data generating section for generating linkage data indicating a relationship among the session-dependent generator and a generator determined by the 10 individual data and/or the session-related information.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the secret information is represented by  $(x, y, v)$  that satisfies:  $v = (y + \delta)^{1/e} \bmod n$ , where  $y = a^x \bmod n$ ,  $n$  is a product of two prime numbers as used in the RSA cryptography,  $g$  is a generator that 15 generates a cyclic group of order  $n$ ,  $a$  is an integer mutually prime to  $n$ ,  $e$  is an integer mutually prime to the Euler number of  $n$ , and  $\delta$  is a constant other than 1.

the generator creating section creates a session-dependent generator  $g_A$  corresponding to a session  $A$  20 and a generator  $g_m$  is generated based on the individual data  $m$  and/or the session  $A$ .

the group signing section sets  $z = g_A^y$  and generates a first proof statement

$$V_1 = \text{SKLOGLOG}(z, g_A, a)[a:z = g_A(a^y)](1)$$

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proving the knowledge of  $\alpha$  satisfying  $z = g_A(\alpha^a)$ , and a second proof statement

$$V_2 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z^*g_A^b, g_A, e) [\beta: z^*g_A^b = g_A(\beta^e)] (1)$$

proving the knowledge of  $\beta$  satisfying  $z^*g_A^b = g_A(\beta^e)$ .

5 the linkage data generating section sets  $z_1 = g_m^y$ , and generates a third proof statement

$$V_3 = \text{SKREP}(z_1/z, g_m/g_A) [\gamma: z_1/z = (g_m/g_A)^\gamma] (1)$$

proving the knowledge of  $z_1$  and  $z$  have the same power to the bases  $g_m$  and  $g_A$ , respectively.

10 wherein the anonymous participation data is defined as  $(A, m, z, z_1, V_1, V_2, V_3)$ .

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein the anonymous signature determining section checks  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ , and  $V_3$  of the anonymous participation data to determine 15 whether received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous signature authorized by the participant subsystem, and

the sender match determining section checks  $z$  of the anonymous participation data to determine whether anonymous 20 signatures of arbitrary two pieces of anonymous participation data are signed by an identical participant subsystem.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the anonymous signing section comprises:

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a generator creating section for creating a generator depending on the session-related information;

a group signing section for signing the individual data using the generator and the secret information to produce 5 anonymous participation data, wherein the anonymous participation data includes data obtained by raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the secret information is represented by  $(x, y, v)$  that satisfies:  $v = (y + \delta)^{1/e} \bmod n$ , where  $y = a^x \bmod n$ , the individual data is denoted by  $m$ ,  $n$  is a product of two prime numbers as used in the RSA 15 cryptography,  $g$  is a generator that generates a cyclic group of order  $n$ ,  $a$  is an integer mutually prime to  $n$ ,  $e$  is an integer mutually prime to the Euler number of  $n$ , and  $\delta$  is a constant other than 1,

the generator creating section creates a session-dependent generator  $g_A$  corresponding to a session  $A$ .

20 the group signing section sets  $z = g_A^y$  and generates a first proof statement

$V_1 = \text{SKLOGLOG}(z, g_A, a)[\alpha: z = g_A^{a^\alpha}](m)$

proving the knowledge of  $\alpha$  satisfying  $z = g_A^{a^\alpha}$ . and a second proof statement

$V_2 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z^*g_A^\beta, g_A, e)[\beta: z^*g_A^\beta = g_A^{e^\beta}](m)$

25 proving the knowledge of  $\beta$  satisfying  $z^*g_A^\beta = g_A^{e^\beta}$ .

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wherein the anonymous participation data 13 is designated as (A, m, z, V<sub>1</sub>, V<sub>2</sub>).

11. The system according to claim 10, wherein the anonymous signature determining section checks 5 V<sub>1</sub>, and V<sub>2</sub> of the anonymous participation data to determine whether received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous signature authorized by the participant subsystem, and

the sender match determining section checks z of the 10 anonymous participation data to determine whether anonymous signatures of arbitrary two pieces of anonymous participation data are signed by an identical participant subsystem.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein the anonymous signing section comprises:

15 a generator creating section for creating a session-dependent generator depending on the session-related information;

an escrow identifying section for signing the individual data using the session-dependent generator and the 20 secret information to produce anonymous participation data, wherein the anonymous participation data includes data obtained by raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information; and

a linkage data generating section for generating linkage data indicating a relationship among the session-dependent generator and a generator determined by the individual data and/or the session-related information.

5        13. The system according to claim 12, wherein the secret information is represented by (a, b) that satisfies  
 $b = (a^e - \delta)^{1/e} \bmod n$ , where n is a product of two prime numbers as used in the RSA cryptography, g is a generator that generates a cyclic group of order n, a is an integer mutually prime to  
10      n, e is an integer mutually prime to the Euler number of n.  
and  $\delta$  is a constant other than 1,

the generator creating section creates a session-dependent generator  $g_A$  corresponding to a session A and a generator  $g_m$  is generated based on the individual data  
15      m and/or the session A,

the escrow identifying section sets  $z_a = g_A(a^e)$  and generates a first proof statement

$$V_1 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z_a, g_A, e) [\alpha: z_a = g_A(a^e)](1)$$

proving the knowledge of  $\alpha$  satisfying  $z_a = g_A(a^e)$ , and sets  $z_b$

20       $= g_A(b^e)$  and generates a second proof statement

$$V_2 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z_b, g_A, e) [\beta: z_b = g_A(b^e)](1)$$

proving the knowledge of  $\beta$  satisfying  $z_b = g_A(b^e)$ , and

the linkage data generating section sets  $z_c = g_m(a^e)$  and generates a third proof statement

25       $V_3 = \text{SKREP}(z_c/z_a, g_m/g_A) [\gamma: z_c/z_a = (g_m/g_A)^\gamma](1)$

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proving the knowledge of  $z_a$  and  $z_c$  having the same power to the bases  $g_A$  and  $g_m$ , respectively,

wherein the anonymous participation data is defined as  $(A, m, z_a, z_b, z_c, V_1, V_2, V_3)$ .

5        14. The system according to claim 13, wherein  
              the anonymous signature determining section  
determines whether  $z_a/z_b = g_A^b$  is satisfied and checks  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  
and  $V_3$  of the anonymous participation data to determine whether  
received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous  
10      signature authorized by the participant subsystem, and  
              the sender match determining section checks one of  
               $z_a$  and  $z_c$  of the anonymous participation data to determine  
whether anonymous signatures of arbitrary two pieces of  
anonymous participation data are signed by an identical  
15      participant subsystem.

15. The system according to claim 1, wherein the  
anonymous signing section comprises:  
              a generator creating section for creating a  
session-dependent generator depending on the session-related  
20      information; and  
              an escrow identifying section for signing the  
individual data using the session-dependent generator and the  
secret information to produce anonymous participation data,  
wherein the anonymous participation data includes data

obtained by raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information.

16. The system according to claim 15, wherein the secret information is represented by  $(a, b)$  that satisfies

5  $b = (a^e - \delta)^{1/e} \bmod n$ , where  $n$  is a product of two prime numbers as used in the RSA cryptography,  $g$  is a generator that generates a cyclic group of order  $n$ ,  $a$  is an integer mutually prime to  $n$ ,  $e$  is an integer mutually prime to the Euler number of  $n$ , and  $\delta$  is a constant other than 1,

10 the generator creating section creates a session-dependent generator  $g_A$  corresponding to a session  $A$ ,

the escrow identifying section sets  $z_a = g_A^{(a^e)}$  and generates a first proof statement

$$V_1 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z_a, g_A, e)[\alpha: z_a = g_A^{(a^e)}](m)$$

15 proving the knowledge of  $\alpha$  satisfying  $z_a = g_A^{(a^e)}$ , and sets  $z_b = g_A^{(b^e)}$  and generates a second proof statement

$$V_2 = \text{SKROOTLOG}(z_b, g_A, e)[\beta: z_b = g_A^{(b^e)}](m)$$

proving the knowledge of  $\beta$  satisfying  $z_b = g_A^{(b^e)}$ ,

wherein the anonymous participation data is defined

20 as  $(A, m, z_a, z_b, V_1, V_2)$ .

17. The system according to claim 16, wherein

the anonymous signature determining section

determines whether  $z_a/z_b = g_A^{\delta}$  is satisfied and checks  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  of the anonymous participation data to determine whether

received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous signature authorized by the participant subsystem, and

the sender match determining section checks one of  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  of the anonymous participation data to determine 5 whether anonymous signatures of arbitrary two pieces of anonymous participation data are signed by an identical participant subsystem.

18. An anonymous participation authority management method for a system comprising:

10 a participant subsystem that is authorized to anonymously participate in a plurality of sessions using secret information; and

15 a reception subsystem that determines whether it is acceptable for the participant subsystem to participate in a session,

the method comprising the steps of:

at the participant subsystem,

20 a) authorizing individual data using the secret information depending on session-related information to produce anonymous participation data with anonymous signature;

at the reception subsystem,

25 b) determining whether received data is anonymous participation data with anonymous signature authorized by the participant subsystem; and

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c) determining whether anonymous signatures of arbitrary two pieces of anonymous participation data are signed by an identical participant subsystem.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the  
5 anonymous signature includes data that is generated by a predetermined expression using the session-related information and the secret information, wherein the step (c) is performed by checking the data included in the anonymous signature of received anonymous participation data.

10 20. The method according to claim 19, wherein the predetermined expression is represented by raising a session-dependent base to a power that is dependent on the secret information.

15 21. The method according to claim 18, wherein the step (a) comprises the steps of:

creating a session-dependent generator depending on the session-related information;

20 signing the individual data using the session-dependent generator and the secret information to produce anonymous participation data, wherein the anonymous participation data includes data obtained by raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information; and

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generating linkage data indicating a relationship among the session-dependent generator and a generator determined by the individual data and/or the session-related information.

5 22. The method according to claim 18, wherein the step

(a) comprises the steps of:

creating a session-dependent generator depending on the session-related information; and

10 signing the individual data using the session-dependent generator and the secret information to produce anonymous participation data, wherein the anonymous participation data includes data obtained by raising the session-dependent generator to a power determined by the secret information.